

Message Text

SECRET

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 025976

EXDIS - FOR AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG FROM THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TA OCON, CSCE

SUBJECT: BELGRADE CSCE: FINAL PHASE TACTICS

1. CY AND I HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING WITH SOME CARE THE ISSUES RAISED BY DEVELOPMENTS IN BELGRADE DURING THE PAST TWO WEEKS. AS YOU HAVE POINTED OUT IN YOUR CABLES TO WASHINGTON AND IN YOUR PRESENTATIONS TO THE NATO CAUCUS, CONTINUED SOVIET INTRANSIGENCE HAS BROUGHT US TO A POINT WHERE IMPORTANT TACTICAL DECISIONS MUST BE MADE. HOW WE PROCEED FROM HERE COULD AFFECT NOT ONLY THE OUTCOME OF THE BELGRADE MEETING, BUT ALSO THE COURSE OF THE CSCE PROCESS IN COMING YEARS.

2. AS YOU HAVE NOTED, OUR MAIN GOAL CONTINUES TO BE MANAGING THE NEGOTIATING SITUATION IN A MANNER WHICH MAKES POSSIBLE THE EMERGENCE OF COMPROMISES ACCEPTABLE TO
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THE WEST WHICH CAN ALSO WIN A CONSENSUS. I THINK WE ARE ALL AGREED THAT ULTIMATELY THE EFFORTS OF THE NEUTRAL/ NON-ALIGNED PARTICIPANTS TO COME UP WITH COMPROMISE PROPOSALS OFFER THE BEST MEANS OF ACHIEVING THIS END. WE ALSO CONTINUE TO REGARD THE MAINTENANCE OF UNITY AMONG WESTERN PARTICIPANTS AS THE NEGOTIATIONS UNFOLD AS CRITICAL TO SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE CONFERENCE.

3. YOU CAN IMAGINE THAT IT IS DIFFICULT FROM THIS DISTANCE TO JUDGE FULLY THE IMPLICATIONS OF DEVELOPMENTS IN BELGRADE. FOR THIS REASON, CY AND I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE TACTICAL SITUATION IN BELGRADE AT THE PRESENT TIME AND YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE STEPS WE SHOULD TAKE TO ENSURE THAT OUR NEGOTIATING GOALS ARE MET. AS WE HERE IN WASHINGTON CONSIDER HOW TO PROCEED IN COMING WEEKS, YOUR PERSONAL DESCRIPTION OF WHERE WE ARE, WHERE WE SHOULD BE GOING, AND WHEN WE SHOULD MOVE WILL BE INDISPENSABLE. IN PARTICULAR, WE CONTINUE TO FOLLOW WITH INTEREST THE TACTICAL DEBATE SURROUNDING THE ISSUE OF HOW BEST TO STIMULATE THE SOVIETS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONTACT GROUPS BEING ORGANIZED BY THE NEUTRAL/ NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES.

5. CY AND I CONTINUE TO BE IMPRESSED WITH THE MANNER IN WHICH YOU ARE EXERTING US LEADERSHIP IN THIS DIFFICULT NEGOTIATING SITUATION. WE HOPE YOU ARE IN THE HOME STRETCH, AND OF COURSE YOU HAVE OUR BEST WISHES FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THIS IMPORTANT TASK. WARMEST REGARDS.

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NNN

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